

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant :	Marcus Dill, et al.	Art Unit :	2166
Serial No. :	10/816,909	Examiner :	Leon J. Harper
Filed :	April 5, 2004	Conf. No. :	2650
Title :	DEFINING A DATA ANALYSIS PROCESS		

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF MAY 31, 2007

In response to the final Office action of May 31, 2007, Applicants ask that all claims be allowed in view of the following remarks. Claims 1, 3-14, 17-28, and 31-34 are currently pending, of which claims 1, 7, 14, 28, and 34 are independent.

Applicants thank Examiner Harper for returning a signed copy of the form PTO-1449 included with the information disclosure statement filed on August 3, 2006. Applicants note, however, that the item listed at designation ID "AK" has not been initialed. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the reference listed at designation ID "AK" and a returned copy of the form PTO-1449 included with the information disclosure statement filed on August 3, 2006 including initials for the reference listed at designation ID "AK".

In addition, Applicants thank Examiner Harper for returning a signed copy of the form PTO-1449 included with the information disclosure statement filed on December 7, 2006. Applicants note, however, that the item listed at designation ID "AQ" has not been initialed. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the reference listed at designation ID "AQ" and a returned copy of the form PTO-1449 included with the information disclosure statement filed on December 7, 2006 including initials for the reference listed at designation ID "AQ".

Claims 1, 3-14, 17-28, and 31-34 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Nwabueze (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0144174) in view of Bal (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0164961). Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because neither Nwabueze, Bal, nor any proper combination of the two, describes or suggests all of the features of independent claims 1, 7, 14, 28, and 34, as described below.

For example, independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a data analysis display configured to display representations of sub-processes included in the data analysis process identified by a selected entry, where the displayed representations of sub-processes include a representation of a deployment sub-process for storing a created data attribute in one of a first transactional data source, a second transactional data source other than the first transactional data source, or a second analytical data source used for analytical processing. The data analysis display is also configured to display connections between the displayed sub-processes, the connections indicating a sequence with which the displayed sub-processes are performed when performing the data analysis process. Applicants submit that neither Nwabueze, Bal, nor any proper combination of the two, describes or suggests these features.

Nwabueze describes a system configured to extract, organize, format, and present data for business intelligence purposes. See Nwabueze at paragraph [0043]. As shown in Fig. 2, the system acquires data from multiple sources, performs various processing operations on the data, and displays the processed data to a customer. See Nwabueze at paragraphs [0048]-[0056]. Nwabueze, however, does not display representations of sub-processes or connections between the displayed sub-processes. Instead, Nwabueze is directed to displaying processed data as output data rather than displaying a representation of sub-processes included in a data analysis process. Therefore, Nwabueze fails to describe or suggest a data analysis display configured to display representations of sub-processes included in the data analysis process identified by a selected entry, where the displayed representations of sub-processes include a representation of a deployment sub-process for storing a created data attribute in one of a first transactional data source, a second transactional data source other than the first transactional data source, or a second analytical data source used for analytical processing, as recited in independent claim 1. Moreover, Nwabueze fails to describe or suggest that the data analysis display is further configured to display connections between the displayed sub-processes, the connections indicating a sequence with which the displayed sub-processes are performed when performing the data analysis process, as also recited in independent claim 1. Notably, the Examiner admits that Nwabueze fails to describe or suggest these features and relies on Bal for these features. See final Office Action of May 31, 2007 at pages 4-5.

Bal fails to remedy the deficiencies of Nwabueze. Specifically, the final Office action cites FIGS. 10a-10c of Bal in rejecting these features. See final Office Action of May 31, 2007 at page 5. However, none of FIGS. 10a-10c of Bal (or any other portion of Bal) displays representations of sub-processes included in a data analysis process identified by a selected entry, where the displayed representations of sub-processes include a representation of a deployment sub-process for storing a created data attribute in one of a first transactional data source, a second transactional data source other than the first transactional data source, or a second analytical data source used for analytical processing, as recited in independent claim 1. Nor do FIGS. 10a-10c of Bal (or any other portion of Bal) display connections between the displayed sub-processes, the connections indicating a sequence with which the displayed sub-processes are performed when performing the data analysis process, as also recited in independent claim 1.

In contrast, FIGS. 10a-10c of Bal show various screen displays that may be presented to a user of a data download and analytics engine. See Bal at paragraph [0043]. For instance, FIG. 10a of Bal shows a screen display that enables a user to input a request to search for a corporation of interest, FIG. 10b of Bal shows a screen display that enables a user to query data related to the financial assets of the searched corporation, and FIG. 10c of Bal shows a screen display that may be presented to a user after the user enters the data present in the screen shot of FIG. 10b of Bal. See Bal at paragraphs [0044]-[0046]. As such, Bal fails to describe or suggest a data analysis display configured to (1) display representations of sub-processes included in a data analysis process and (2) display connections between the displayed sub-processes that indicate a sequence with which the displayed sub-processes are performed when performing the data analysis process. Instead, the screen displays that enable a user to search for a corporation of interest or query data related to the financial assets of the searched corporation (FIGS. 10a and 10b of Bal) fail to display representations of sub-processes included in a data analysis process and fail to display connections between the displayed sub-processes. Rather, the screen displays of FIGS. 10a and 10b of Bal include user interface elements that enable a user to enter input to perform a search or a query and are unrelated to defining a data analysis process.

Similarly, FIG. 10c of Bal, which displays a chart showing output data resulting from performing a query using the interface displayed in FIG. 10b, is unrelated to defining a data

analysis process and does not display representations of sub-processes included in a data analysis process or connections between the displayed sub-processes that indicate a sequence with which the displayed sub-processes are performed when performing the data analysis process.

Applicants are unclear as to which display elements shown in FIGS. 10a-10c of Bal the Examiner considers as the (1) representations of sub-processes included in a data analysis process and the (2) connections between the displayed sub-processes that indicate a sequence with which the displayed sub-processes are performed when performing the data analysis process.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants submit that neither Nwabueze, Bal, nor any proper combination of the two, describes or suggests a data analysis display configured to display representations of sub-processes included in the data analysis process identified by a selected entry, where the displayed representations of sub-processes include a representation of a deployment sub-process for storing a created data attribute in one of a first transactional data source, a second transactional data source other than the first transactional data source, or a second analytical data source used for analytical processing, as recited in independent claim 1. Applicants also submit that neither Nwabueze, Bal, nor any proper combination of the two, describes or suggests that the data analysis display is further configured to display connections between the displayed sub-processes, the connections indicating a sequence with which the displayed sub-processes are performed when performing the data analysis process, as also recited in independent claim 1.

Therefore, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 3-6.

Independent claims 14, 28, and 34, each recite, *inter alia*, receiving (claim 14) or a computer program product (claim 28) or a processor (claim 34) configured to receive multiple sub-process user inputs, each sub-process user input identifying a sub-process associated with the data analysis process, where at least one of the identified sub-processes is a deployment sub-process for storing a data attribute created in another of the identified sub-processes in one of the first transactional data source, a second transactional data source other than the first transactional data source, or a second analytical data source used for analytical processing. As described above, neither Nwabueze, Bal, nor any proper combination of the two, describes or suggests a

data analysis display configured to display representations of sub-processes included in the data analysis process identified by the selected entry, where the displayed representations of sub-processes include a representation of a deployment sub-process for storing the created data attribute in one of the first transactional data source, a second transactional data source other than the first transactional data source, or a second analytical data source used for analytical processing.

Therefore, Nwabueze, Bal, or any proper combination of the two, also fails to describe or suggest receipt of multiple sub-process user inputs, each sub-process user input identifying a sub-process associated with the data analysis process, where at least one of the identified sub-processes is a deployment sub-process for storing a data attribute created in another of the identified sub-processes in one of the first transactional data source, a second transactional data source other than the first transactional data source, or a second analytical data source used for analytical processing. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 14, 28, and 34 and claims 17-27 that depend from claim 14 and claims 31-33 that depend from claim 28.

Independent claim 7 recites, *inter alia*, a common data display for receiving an entry of selected meta-data elements to be used in a data analysis process wherein each meta-data element is associated with a corresponding data element in a data source and with a corresponding data element in an analytical processing data source. Neither Nwabueze, Bal, nor any proper combination of the two, describes or suggests this feature.

In particular, the final Office action indicates that Nwabueze does not explicitly describe a common data display for receiving an entry of selected meta-data elements to be used in a data analysis process wherein each meta-data element is associated with a corresponding data element in a data source and with a corresponding data element in an analytical processing data source. See final Office action of May 31, 2007 at pages 7-8. For this feature, the final Office action relies on Bal.

Specifically, the Examiner cites paragraph [0002] of Bal and states "note: other types of information collected." See final Office action of May 31, 2007 at page 8. Paragraph [0002] of Bal describes that financial analysts analyze "many of the publicly available sources of financial information" and lists examples of publicly available sources of financial information. The

financial information and financial information sources described in Bal, however, do not represent meta-data elements to be used in a data analysis process where each meta-data element is associated with a corresponding data element in a data source and with a corresponding data element in an analytical processing data source. Merely noting that a reference describes "other types of information collected" is insufficient to reject a claim that recites a common data display for receiving an entry of selected meta-data elements to be used in a data analysis process wherein each meta-data element is associated with a corresponding data element in a data source and with a corresponding data element in an analytical processing data source. Because Bal fails to describe or suggest these features, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 7 and its dependent claims 8-13.

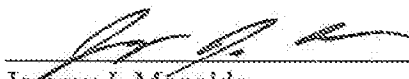
It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply.

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/26/2007



Jeremy J. Monaldo
Reg. No. 58,680

Customer No.: 32864
Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W.
11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331